



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
 COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE - OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE
 CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT
 APO AE 09306

IRCS

31 AUG 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: CIVCAS Allegation Closure Report, Allegation No. 1205

1. (U) **BLUF**. Based on the below findings, this allegation is **NOT CREDIBLE**. A search of all available strike records found no corroborating strikes; therefore, there is insufficient evidence to corroborate the allegation. CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell shall close this allegation and make available for immediate public release.

2. (U) **Background**. I considered the following information in making my findings:

a. (U) On 5 August 2017, an individual claiming to represent RT TV International requested comment on a sana.sy article alleging civilian casualties. An excerpt reads: "SANA News reports that 43 people were killed in air strikes on Raqqa city on Saturday, August 5. Therefore, we would be grateful if you could provide us with the following information:

1) Did the International Coalition for Operation Inherent Resolve conduct air raids in and around the city of Raqqa on Saturday, August 5?

2) Did the International Coalition for Operation Inherent Resolve use phosphorus bombs in the city of Raqqa on Thursday, August 3?

3) Is the International Coalition for Operation Inherent Resolve aware of these particular reports and is it going to investigate them?

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Kind regards,
 Ekaterina Bylkina"

b. (U) On 5 August 2017, WebOps Iraq-Syria reported: Reports of CIVCAS from CF Airstrikes Killing Forty Three Civilians in Raqqa. Pro-Syrian opposition social media users and regional media outlets including Syriannewscenter.net via Twitter disseminated reports that, according to local sources, US-led coalition aircrafts allegedly, while attacking ISIS positions, several residential areas were bombed in the city of Raqqa, killing at least 43 people and injuring a number of others, also causing material damage to homes and properties.

c. (~~S//REL~~) On 17 August 2017, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell approved the Initial Assessment (IA) and determined the allegation should be closed at the IA.

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3. (U) **CJTF Initial Assessment**

a. (~~S//REL~~) Airwars.org did not contain a corroborating allegation.

b. (~~S//REL~~) The allegation did not include picture or video evidence of CIVCAS. Moreover, the allegation did not provide a specific location, e.g., MGRS, name of building.

c. (~~S//REL~~) The allegation did not provide any detail that would allow the CIVCAS Cell to reasonably conduct a search for strikes. Due to the lack of detail in the allegation to narrow the search, it would be unreasonable to make assessment of credibility.

d. (~~S//REL~~) Accordingly, CJTF-OIR CIVCAS Cell recommended closing this allegation at the Initial Assessment due to insufficient evidence to corroborate the allegation.

4. (U) **Action.**

(U) I direct closure of this CIVCAS incident and that CJTF-OIR PAO publish the result of this CIVCAS assessment in a press release as soon as practicable.

5. (U) Point of contact is

(b)(3) 10 USC 130b; (b)(6)

(b)(6)

1 Encls

1. Initial Assessment



KENNETH L. KAMPER
BG, USA
Chief of Staff

Approved for Release

Pages 459 through 461 redacted for the following reasons:

Exhibits removed per agreement - Bates Numbers 5152 - 5154

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